

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 4149 SENT ACTION SECSTATE
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MOSCOW, CAIRO, JERUSALEM OCTOBER 24, 1973: QUOTE

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TAGS: PFOR UNSC XF

SUBJ: US STATEMENT ON SC RESOLUTION CONFIRMING ME
CEASEFIRE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF AMB SCALI'S STATEMENT TO
SC OCT 23 AFTER COUNCIL'S ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION
CONFIRMING ME CEASEFIRE (SEPTEL):

MR. PRESIDENT, I SHOULD LIKE T PUT ON RECORD MY DELEGATION'S
DEEP REGRET THAT OUR PROCEEDINGS HAD BEEN INTERRUPTED BY
UNFORTUNATE DISORDER. I WISH ALSO TO COMPLIMENT OUR DISTINGUISHED
PRESIDENT, AMBASSADOR MCINTYRE, FOR HIS PATIENT EFFORTS TO MAIN-
TAIN AND RESTORE ORDER IN THE CHAMBER. THIS WRANGLE WAS PARTICULARLY
REGRETTABLE BECAUSE OF THE URGENCY OF THE ISSUE BEFORE US.
THE ISSUE IS PEACE AND WHILE WE SPEAK MEN ARE DYING.

MY DELEGATION, FOR ITS PART, WAS PREPARED TO ALLOW THE
DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF CHINA TO SPEAK. WE DID NOT BELIEVE
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HE WOULD SPEAK AN UNREASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME. THE ISSUE HAS BEEN

RESOLVED AND WE FERVENTLY HOPE THAT WE MAY BE SPARED FURTHER INTERRUPTIONS IN THE FUTURE.

MR. PRESIDENT, THE UNITED STATES HAS JOINED WITH THE SOVIET UNION IN INTRODUCING THIS DRAFT RESOLUTION BEFORE THE COUNCIL BECAUSE OF ITS CONCERN THAT THE CEASE FIRE ORDERED BY THE COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 22 BE MADE FULLY EFFECTIVE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT.

THERE HAVE BEEN CHARGES FROM EACH SIDE OF VIOLATIONS ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED BY THE OTHER. IT IS OBVIOUSLY IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS MOMENT TO DETERMINE THE ACCURACY OF THESE CHARGES. NO THIRD PARTY EVIDENCE FROM AN OBJECTIVE SOURCE IS AVAILABLE TO US.

THE RESOLUTION BEFORE US CONFIRMS THE COUNCIL'S DECISION OF OCTOBER 22 ON AN IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF ALL KINDS OF FIRING AND OF ALL MILITARY ACTION AND URGES THAT THE FORCES OF THE TWO SIDES BE RETURNED TO THE POSITION THEY OCCUPIED AT THE MOMENT THE CEASE FIRE BECAME EFFECTIVE. THE RESOLUTION ALSO SUGGESTS THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL TAKE MEASURES TO DISPATCH UNITED NATIONS OBSERVERS IMMEDIATELY TO SUPERVISE THE OBSERVANCE OF THE CEASE FIRE, INCLUDING PERSONNEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS NOW IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND FIRST OF ALL THOSE IN CAIRO.

WE CONSIDER THE CENTRAL FEATURES OF THE RESOLUTION TO BE THOSE IN WHICH THE COUNCIL CONFIRMS ITS POSITION FOR A CEASE FIRE AND IN WHICH IT PROVIDES FOR THE STATIONING OF OBSERVERS BETWEEN THE FORCES OF ISRAEL AND THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT. THE FORMER PROVISION WILL PUT AN END TO BLOODSHED; THE LATTER WILL RESULT IN THE CREATION OF A CLEAR LINE OF DEMARCATION SEPARATING THE FORCES OF THE TWO SIDES.

WE HAVE AGREED, FOR REASONS OF PRINCIPLE, WITH THE PROVISION OF THE RESOLUTION URGING THE FORCES TO RETURN TO THE POSITIONS THEY OCCUPIED WHEN THE CEASE FIRE BECAME EFFECTIVE. WE PUT FORWARD THE PRINCIPLE OF RETURN TO POSITIONS OCCUPIED BEFORE HOSTILITIES BROKE OUT IN A STATEMENT I MADE IN THIS CHAMBER ON OCTOBER 8. AT THAT TIME THE PRINCIPLES DID NOT RECEIVE THE SUPPORT FROM THE COUNCIL. CONSISTENT WITH OUR ARGUMENT AT THAT TIME, WE AGREE TODAY THAT FORCES SHOULD RETURN

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TO THE POSITIONS OCCUPIED AT THE TIME THE CEASE FIRE BECAME EFFECTIVE. BUT WE MUST POINT OUT THAT THERE WILL BE GREAT DIFFICULTY IN ESTABLISHING ACTUAL CEASE FIRE LINES AND IN FIXING THE POSITIONS OF FORCES WHICH HAVE BEEN MANEUVERING IN THE DESERT. I HOPE THAT THIS WILL NOT BECOME OUR CENTRAL PREOCCUPATION AS WE SEARCH FOR A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE UNITED NATIONS RESUME AT ONCE THE

FUNCTION OF OBSERVATION OF THE FORCES OF THE PARTIES. FORTUNATELY, THE UNITED NATIONS HAS IN THE AREA OFFICERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION, WHO CAN PROCEED QUICKLY TO THE CEASE FIRE AREA. ON THE PASSAGE OF THIS RESOLUTION, WE WOULD EXPECT THE SECRETARY GENERAL, THROUGH THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION, TO PUT OBSERVERS IN PLACE AT ONCE, AND TO RECEIVE IMMEDIATELY REPORTS FROM THEM ON EVENTS IN THE AREAS OF CONTACT BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. THESE REPORTS WOULD, OF COURSE, BE TRANSMITTED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL FORTHWITH.

FINALLY, MR. PRESIDENT, WE MUST LOOK TO THE FUTURE. OUR PARAMOUNT TASK IS TO BRING ABOUT A CEASE FIRE AND TO HALT THE BLOODSHED. WE HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL CAN GIVE PROMPT CONSIDERATION TO THE UNITED STATES-SOVIET RESOLUTION, AS IT HAS, SO THAT THE FIGHTING MAY BE STOPPED AND NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN LOOKING TOWARD A JUST AND LASTING PEACE.

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